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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended): A Coriolis mass flowmeter comprising:
an evaluation unit,
~~with at least one pipe (9) through which the a mass flows,~~
~~which pipe can be made by an excitation unit (8) to make the at least one pipe~~
undergo mechanical vibration as an oscillating element, the oscillating behavior of which, changing in dependence on the mass flow, ~~can be sensed by means of~~
~~at least one sensor (15, 16) for sensing the oscillating behavior of the at least~~
~~one pipe determining to determine the mass flow, characterized in that, wherein~~ to determine the current state of wear of the pipe (9), the excitation unit (8) imparts a single oscillatory pulse to the pipe (9), the oscillatory response of which is sensed by means of the at least one sensor (15; 16) and ~~is used by a downstream~~ the evaluation unit (10) as a basis for calculating the current damping constant of the pipe (9) and comparing this with a stored, original damping constant of the pipe (9) when it was new.
2. (Currently Amended): The Coriolis mass flowmeter as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ there is a mass flow when the single oscillatory pulse is imparted to the pipe (9) by the excitation unit (8), ~~but this can be the effect of this~~
~~mass flow being computationally eliminated by the evaluation unit (10) to determine~~ the individual damping constant of the pipe (9).
3. (Currently Amended): The Coriolis mass flowmeter as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ a mass flow is not taking place when the single

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oscillatory pulse is imparted to the pipe (9) by the excitation unit (8).

4. (Currently Amended): The Coriolis mass flowmeter as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that claim 1, wherein the at least one pipe (9) comprises a magnetically neutral pipe with at least one excitation aid (7) attached thereto, which is formed as the excitation aid (7) comprising a ferromagnetic body, is attached to the magnetically neutral pipe (9) and can be used by the excitation unit (8) for making the pipe (9) vibrate.

5. (Currently Amended): The Coriolis mass flowmeter as claimed in claim 4, characterized in that wherein the magnetically neutral pipe (9) consists of a ceramic material.

6. (Currently Amended): The Coriolis mass flowmeter as claimed in claim 4, characterized in that wherein the magnetically neutral pipe (9) consists of a plastic.

7. (Currently Amended): A method for operating a Coriolis mass flowmeter as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that, to determine the current state of wear of the a pipe (9), the latter is excited by the excitation unit (8) with of the Coriolis mass flowmeter, the method comprising:

applying a single oscillatory pulse to the pipe, after which the sensing an oscillatory response to the pulse is sensed by at least one sensor (15; 16) and used by a downstream evaluation unit (10) as a basis for calculating the a current damping constant of the pipe (9) from the response,
and

comparing this the current damping constant with a stored, original damping constant of the pipe (9) when it the pipe was new.

8. (Currently Amended): The method as claimed in claim 7, characterized in

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~~that wherein a mass flow is taking place is flowing through the pipe when the single oscillatory pulse is imparted to the pipe (9) by the excitation unit (8), but this is the effect of this mass flow being computationally eliminated by the evaluation unit (10) to determine the individual damping constant of the pipe (9).~~

9. (Currently Amended): The Coriolis mass flowmeter method as claimed in claim 7, characterized in that wherein a mass flow is not taking place when the single oscillatory pulse is imparted to the pipe (9) by the excitation unit (8).